THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

25 July 1996

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

16 May 1996

B. Dates of next meetings:

19 September 1996
17 October 1996

C. Confirmation of 20 June 1996 S.L. and O.G. Appendices.

D. Confirmation of working drawings for new Chancery of Chile. Design approved 15 February 1996.

E. H.R. 3793, "To provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes"; discussion.

F. Proposed westbound E Street circulation between 17th and 20th streets, N.W.; staff report.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 25/Jul/96-1, World War II Memorial design guidelines. Review.

B. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 25/Jul/96-2, The Mall. Handicapped access, studies for walks. (Previous: CFA 16/Feb/95-3.)

B. National Park Service, National Capital Region

2. CFA 25/Jul/96/-3, East Potomac Golf Course, Ohio Drive, S.W. Final site plan, storage pavilion and maintenance facility. Concept for clubhouse renovation. (Previous: CFA 16/Apr/92-6.)

C. Department of the Treasury

CFA 25/Jul/96-4, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 14th, 15th and C Streets, S.W. Visitors' Center and renovation of west entrance. Final design. (Previous: CFA 15/Feb/96-3.)

D. General Services Administration

CFA 25/Jul/96-5, Federal Triangle: Mellon Auditorium and adjacent office buildings on Constitution Avenue. Systems modernization and handicapped access.

E. National Red Cross

CFA 25/Jul/96-6, American Red Cross - D.C. Chapter, 2025 E Street, N.W. Replacement of existing building. Concept.

F. National Gallery of Art

CFA 25/Jul/96-7, National Gallery Sculpture Garden, The Mall at Constitution Avenue and 7th Street, N.W. Revised concept design. (Previous: CFA 18/April/96-2.)

G. Department of Defense, Pentagon Reservation

CFA 25/Jul/96-8, new condenser water intake structure on Pentagon Lagoon.

H. Department of the Army,
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

CFA 25/Jul/96-9, Fort McNair, 4th and M Streets S.W. Renovation of Barracks Building No. 47.

I. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

1. CFA 25/Jul/96-10, U.S. Naval Observatory, Massachusetts Avenue at 34th Street, N.W. Design for new sign at entrance.

2. CFA 25/Jul/96-11, Washington Navy Yard, M Street, S.E. Repair and partial replacement of portions of perimeter walls.

J. Smithsonian Institution

CFA 25/Jul/96-12, Arts and Industries Building, Independence Avenue and Jefferson Drive, S.W. Signs.

K. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 96-59, 445 12th Street, S.W. The Portals, Phase II. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 92-8.)

b. S.L. 96-48, 7770 17th Street, N.W. New single family residence. Concept.

c. S.L. 96-58, Hillwood Museum, 4155 Linnean Drive, N.W. New visitors' center, parking deck and greenhouse facility. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 96-03.)

d. Appendix I.

K. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 95-152, 3513 N Street, N.W. Holy Trinity Church. Additions, new construction and razing. Concept.

b. Appendix II.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 96-41	412 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Charles and Carmen Brower Residence	Alterations to front - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept design for alterations to front including steps to new basement areaway, alterations to basement windows for new doors and fence to match existing. Submit working drawings, including landscape plan, for review when ready.

S.L. 96-56	400 New Jersey Avenue, N.W. Hyatt Regency Hotel	Signs - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for two proposed internally-illuminated signs. Signs are composed of 24 inch high pin-mounted letters reading "Hyatt". Approval is based on scale of building and location of identification signs. Sign on First Street awning is to be removed.

S.L. 96-60	305-309 E Street, N.W. First Trinity Lutheran Church	In-fill addition - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed in-fill addition to First Trinity Lutheran Church. Recommend further development studies of entrance elevation.

S.L. 96-61	2311 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. The Woodward Condominiums	Alterations to driveway and new handicapped access - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed widening of existing driveway, new handicapped access walkway, new paving, temporary planters and future restoration of limestone balustrades that had been removed. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 96-16 HPA. 96-80	1967 Calvert Street, N.W. Abdallah Hawa Mama Ayesha's Restaurant	Alterations - revised design

REVISED ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations as shown in revised design on supplemental drawings received and dated 26 July 1996, including awning projecting 4'-0" and sign composed of 10" high pin-mounted letters reading "Mama Ayesha's Restaurant".

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-71 HPA. 96-176	1421 37th Street, N.W. Georgetown University Poulton Hall	Alterations for new child care center - permit

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case superseded by case O.G. 96-109.

O.G. 96-75 HPA. 96-179	3028 Dent Place, N.W. Sally Colby Residence	Alterations to rear porch and front facade - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of alterations to rear porch or enlargement of front facade window to accommodate French doors. Recommend railing for French doors at street (rather than security grille) and matching existing size of divided lights found at the second floor windows. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 96-90 HPA. 96-217	2620 P Street, N.W. Herbert Miller Residence	Curb-cut and off-street parking pads- conceptual

ACTION: Recommend **AGAINST** concept of curb cut and off-street parking pads at this location which would be a detriment to the character of the historic district and a disruption to an uninterrupted historic streetscape. Note is made that, despite commercial zoning, the character of this block is predominantly small-scale residential. In addition, as a contributing element to the historic district, the existing garden would not be improved upon if used for parked cars.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-91 HPA. 96-218	1694 31st Street, N.W. William Seidman Residence	Addition of iron railing - permit

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case was withdrawn by written request of applicant.

O.G. 96-93 HPA. 96-220	3032 N Street, N.W. James D'Orta Residence	Renovation and rear alteration - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 10 July 1996.

O.G. 96-98 HPA. 96-225	3017 P Street, N.W. John and Susan Mullens Residence	Alterations to rear and front elevations - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed alterations to rear elevation and side yard entrance. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 96-99 HPA. 96-246	3210 Reservoir Road, N.W. Steven Damato Residence	Fence - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed 7'-0" high wood board replacement fence which will be stained. Refer parts of project (alterations to window openings at rear elevation) which are not visible from public space to the Historic Preservation Review Board for review. Submit permit application for roof top mechanical equipment, which is visible from public space, for review.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-100 HPA. 96-247	2521 P street, N.W. Gary Deutsch Residence	Replacement windows - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed double-glazed replacement windows which will match the existing units.

O.G. 96-102 HPA. 96-251	2917 M Street, N.W. Charlie Lenkin Mendocino Grille	Alterations to storefront, and awning - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, including installation of wood bi-fold doors, menu board, canister lights and shed-type awning with lettering at the 8 inch valance reading "Mendocino Grille" as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 11 July 1996. Recommend AGAINST side wall awning sign.

O.G. 96-103 HPA. 96-257	3065 M Street, N.W. Yetta Corporation Commercial	Alterations to storefront - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations using 6 over 1 true-divided-light Kolbe & Kolbe wood windows. Working drawings conform in large measure to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 95-142).

O.G. 96-104 HPA. 96-274	1815 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. BLIXN Koons, et. al. Einstein Brothers Bagels	Alterations to storefront, and awnings and signs - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefront, including new entry doors, new window openings and in-fill of two side windows (one replaced by a service door). No objection to awnings and two back-lit signs reading "Einstein Bros. Bagels" PROVIDED existing sign over windows facing parking lot is removed.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-105 HPA. 96-258	2809 M Street, N.W. Di Giovanni Vintage Wine Bistro	New entry door and awning - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alteration to entrance or to installation of new shed-type awning with 12-inch valance for lettering reading "Vintage Wine Bistro" as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 17 July 1996.

O.G. 96-106 HPA. 96-259	1249 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Soleiman Brothers Partnership Diesel Shop	Alterations to storefront, and sign - conceptual

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case superseded by case O.G. 96-117.

O.G. 96-107 HPA. 96-260	2515 Q Street, N.W. James and Katherine Moule Residence	Rear dormer, deck and fence - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of dormer, rear facade alterations, deck and side yard retaining wall and fence. Recommend reducing length of dormer by pulling back from the east (chimney) side wall. Provide divided light configuration for both the dormer and proposed French doors. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 96-108 HPA. 96-261	2905-2909 M Street, N.W. James and Wanda Pedas Office/commercial	Replacement windows - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed replacement of existing windows with double-glazed units in configuration shown.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-109 HPA. 96-263	1421 37th Street, N.W. Georgetown University Poulton Hall	Alterations for new child care center - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations for new child care center and outdoor play areas, including wood and metal fences, storage sheds, new fire exit, alterations to entrance, dumpster enclosures, mechanical equipment behind screen fence and new landscaping.

O.G. 96-110 HPA. 96-264	3700 O Street, N.W. Georgetown University New South Building	Storefront replacement and new mechanical equipment - permit

ACTION: Returned without Action. Proposed work is replacement in kind of storefront, and new mechanical equipment is not visible from public space. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

O.G. 96-111 HPA. 96-267	3200 M Street, N.W. Gap Banana Republic	Addition of stair enclosure at roof - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of addition of stair enclosure at roof. Recommend true-divided-light wood replacement windows rather than the metal units proposed. Number and size of proposed signs should conform to approved sign scheme. See previous Action (O.G. 93-71). Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 96-113 HPA. 96-276	1698 32nd Street, N.W. Karen Feld Residence	One story addition and alterations - conceptual

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case superseded by case O.G. 96-116.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-114 HPA. 96-270	3015 M Street, N.W. Hossein-Shirvani Commercial	Three story rear addition - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed three story rear addition as shown on drawings received and dated 28 June 1996. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 96-30B).

O.G. 96-115 HPA. 96-272	1079 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. The Levy Group Wrap Works	Alterations to storefront, and sign - revision to permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for revision to approved design. New design will include wood casement doors at the street front. Sign has been changed to read "Wrap Works". See previous Action (O.G. 96-62).

O.G. 96-116 HPA. 96-276	1698 32nd Street, N.W. Karen Feld Residence	One story addition and alterations - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed one story porch addition, new gable windows and addition of rear elevation bay window and dormer. Existing trees will be protected during construction.

O.G. 96-117 HPA. 96-278	1249 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Soleiman Brothers Partnership Diesel Shop	Alterations to storefront, and sign - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed storefront alterations including the installation of a pin-mounted sign with 12-inch letters reading "Diesel" as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 23 July 1996.

STATUS REPORT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 96-95 HPA. 96-222	1524 35th Street, N.W. Convent of the Visitation Preparatory School	New performing arts and physical education centers - revised concept

STATUS: On HOLD for Old Georgetown Board meeting 5 September 1996 for further discussion with applicant.

O.G. 96-112 HPA. 96-268	3208 Reservoir Road, N.W. Reza Amikhalili Residence	Addition of fourth floor - conceptual

STATUS: On HOLD for Old Georgetown Board meeting 5 September 1996 for further discussion with applicant.

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS PRE-MEETING TOUR

25 July 1996

CONVENE: 8:00 AM, Pension Building, Suite 312,
441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20001

1. The Portals, 445 12th Street, S.W. Phase II. Proposed office building.

2. The Mall. Handicapped access, studies for walks.

3. Arts and Industries Building, Independence Avenue and Jefferson Drive, S.W. Signs.

4. American Red Cross, D. C. Chapter, 2025 E Street, N.W. Replacement of existing building. Concept.

5. E Street and 20th Street, N.W. Discussion of two-way traffic study.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Carolyn Brody
Hon. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel
Hon. Eden Rafshoon
Hon. Harry G. Robinson, III

Staff present: Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Jeffrey R. Carson

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
25 July 1996

The meeting was convened at 10:05 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices in the Pension Building, 441 F Street, N.W., after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Harry G. Robinson III, Vice-Chairman
Hon. Carolyn Brody
Hon. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel
Hon. Eden Rafshoon

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler
Mr. José Martínez-Canino

National Capital Planning Commission staff present: Ms. Nancy Witherell

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the minutes of the 16 May 1996 meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

19 September 1996
17 October 1996

C. Confirmation of 20 June 1996 S.L. and O.G. Appendices. The appendices, which had been circulated by mail, were formally approved.

D. Confirmation of working drawings for new Chancery of Chile. Design approved 15 February 1996. The Secretary reported that the staff had reviewed the working drawings and

found that they conformed to the preliminary drawings seen in February; on this basis they were unanimously approved.

E. H.R. 3793, "To provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes"; discussion. The Secretary said this would do what many people had been advocating for some time--combine a commemorative with a circulating coin. He said the only time this had been done before, to his knowledge, was during the Bicentennial, when the quarter and half-dollar had special commemorative designs. He said the series would be designed around recognizing the states in the order in which they were admitted to the Union; there would be five recognized in each year. The Mint expected that the seignorage, or difference in the cost of making a coin and its face value, would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars, and it appeared that collectors were enthusiastic and would buy the pieces, as would the general public.

Mr. Atherton said that as there would be fifty new designs, it offered a great opportunity to bring in American artists to do them; he added that the Mint would need some persuasion to select the designs by competition, as they had not been happy with the difficulties this presented in the past. He said he had been in contact with the staff of Representative Castle's coin subcommittee and had been encouraged to bring the proposed legislation before the Commission in an informal way, to see what the reaction would be to involving a large number of Americans in the design process. He said no report was required and the administration did not as yet have a position on the legislation, but he thought it would not be out of line simply to write Mr. Castle and express the Commission's interest.

The Chairman suggested the Commission might go further and see if the administration would comment and perhaps get the competition requirement in the legislation; he noted President and Mrs. Clinton's interest in American arts and crafts. It was then agreed that a letter on the subject would be written to the Secretary of the Treasury as well as to Mr. Castle. Exhibits A, A-1

F. Proposed westbound E Street circulation between 17th and 20th streets, N.W.; staff report. The Secretary commented on the closing, for security reasons, of the westbound lane of E Street in the vicinity of the White House. He said the concept of splitting E Street traffic, westbound on the north and eastbound on the south, went back to the time when E Street was to be developed as a mall, like the National Mall between the Washington Monument and the Capitol. He noted that all the studies to solve the current E Street traffic problem showed traffic turning right at 17th or 18th Street

and then left on New York Avenue to E Street--a very awkward arrangement that would cause further congestion in an already heavily-traveled area. He said the staff had worked out a solution that he would like to present to the D. C. Highway Department. It would run south E Street in both east and west directions between the Corcoran Gallery and the Red Cross building at 20th Street; beyond that a new ramp would take this traffic underneath Virginia Avenue. Other directional mixes could be worked out, but it would at least get rid of the dogleg problem.

There was a consensus that the idea should be pursued with the D. C. Highway Department, and the Secretary was authorized to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 25/JUL/96-1, World War II Memorial design guidelines. Review. The Secretary introduced Ambassador Haydn Williams, member of the American Battle Monuments Commission and chairman of the commission's Site and Design Committee for the World War II Memorial.

Ambassador Williams touched briefly on the dedication of the site on Veterans Day, 1995, the last formal event of the Department of Defense's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. He commented on the President's speech, in which he said that the World War II Memorial would take its place as one of Washington's great landmarks, symbolizing the major national and international event of the 20th century.

Ambassador Williams then described the deliberations on the nature of the competition for the design of the memorial, saying that it was decided that GSA's Design Excellence Program should be the model, and that the competition should be in two stages, with the first stage anonymous. GSA would be the ABMC's agent, partly because of the high regard the ABMC had for Robert Peck, Commissioner of Public Buildings and former member of the Commission of Fine Arts, and for Ed Feiner, GSA's Chief Architect. And for the same reason, the Army Corps of Engineers was asked to manage the construction of the memorial. He said that senior officials from all agencies involved had met recently to work out areas of cooperation and coordination. He introduced General John Herrling, secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, who had been responsible for bringing together representatives from the various agencies responsible for building the memorial.

Ambassador Williams then turned to the site and design guidelines. He noted the interest of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission in being involved in the development of the guidelines from the beginning, and he said the ABMC had been more than willing to comply; all concerned agencies were asked to review and comment on the guidelines as they were developed and before the final copy went to the printer. He noted two requirements set forth in the guidelines that all had agreed were essential: (1) The vista framed by the row of elms along the Reflecting Pool had to be kept open, with nothing detracting from the view from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial; and (2) The design of the memorial had to be respectful of and compatible in configuration and quality with its historic surroundings. On the other hand, Ambassador Williams said, the design had to have the strength to stand on its own, and the designers were to be given as much freedom and flexibility as possible to exercise their imagination and creativity.

Ambassador Williams then introduced the professional advisor for the World War II Memorial, Bill Lacy, noting that he was president of Purchase College, former president of the Cooper Union, and executive director of the Pritzker International Award for Architecture.

Mr. Lacy said he was pleased to be involved with the World War II Memorial, and as he had served with the Nancy Hanks administration of the National Endowment for the Arts, was familiar with Washington and its monuments and memorials. He gave the Commission an update of what had happened since he joined the World War II group, noting especially the revision of the first announcement of the competition in the Commerce Business Daily in regard to elegibility requirements, the timetable, the anonymity of the Stage One submissions, and the weighted design criteria. He said he expected they would be inundated with submissions for Stage One, but they wanted to be sure a memorial of this importance got the broadest kind of participation; he said the only requirement was that the person entering be at least eighteen years old and a United States citizen, and that the entry be submitted on a 20 by 20-inch board. A minimum of five entries would be selected by an evaluation board for the Stage Two competition, at which time design teams would be formed and detailed designs developed. These would be judged by a jury of distinguished design professionals and American citizens, as well as the original evaluation board, and the final decision announced on 11 November, Veterans Day.

The Commission members then commented on the guidelines. The Chairman noted the statement that a reasonable height would be the crowns of the existing elm trees; he thought a flagpole that height might be all right, but had reservations

about a structure. Mr. Lacy said any structure that high would have to be at the side and could not be within the central, restricted vista area. Ms. Diamonstein asked how high the trees were and was told about 50-75 feet. In answer to a question from the Chairman, Mr. Lacy said the trees along the Reflecting Pool could not be removed, but removal of those around the curve of the Rainbow Pool could be considered.

Ms. Diamonstein asked Mr. Lacy if the constraints on the site had been clearly defined in the material sent to competitors. He said they had been defined generally, but he had not wanted to get too specific at this point, noting that for the first stage the material was going to anybody in the country who had an idea about a memorial they wanted to express. In the second stage, when architects and other professionals were more closely involved, the instructions would be more specific, but still not so much as to limit creativity.

The Chairman asked what would happen if the Commission felt it could not approve any of the five final designs? Mr. Lacy said he did not think that would happen; he noted that the ABMC had kept in touch with the Commission informally all along the way and would continue to do so. He also said he had great faith in the caliber of the jury, whose composition he could not yet reveal, but who were well-known to the Commission members and very knowledgeable about the city.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Lacy and said he would like to commend all those involved in the project for the professional way in which it was being handled. No action was required. Exhibit B

B. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 25/JUL/96-2, The Mall. Handicapped access, studies for walks. (Previous: CFA 16/FEB/95-3.) The Assistant Secretary noted that Commission members had inspected the Mall walks on their pre-meeting tour, with the Park Service's John Parsons. He asked Mr. Parsons to continue the discussion.

Mr. Parsons recalled that the two east-west walkways had been roadways until about twenty years ago, providing 650 spaces for parked cars. With the help of this Commission, the Park Service had replaced the roadways with walkways, paving them with gravel as seen so frequently in Europe. He said it was soon discovered that the walks were difficult to maintain, especially after inclement weather, and not easily accessible to the handicapped. He said there had been complaints, and this project for adding paved areas to the walks was in response to these complaints. He said strips of exposed

aggregate paving had already been added to the north-south walks at 3rd, 7th and 14th streets, noting that the Commission had not objected because these walks were parallel to through roadways across the Mall. He pointed out also the paved walks fronting the museums on the north and south.

Mr. Parsons said the problem at this point was how to add paving to the east-west walks and the north-south walks between museums. Using three drawings, Mr. Parsons explained the alternatives. The first had been shown to the Commission previously and had caused concern because of the great amount of paving, a 15-foot-wide strip under the benches at the edge of the tree panels on the east-west walks, and also on the north-south walks. The Commission was concerned, especially about the east-west walks, and the view from the Capitol and the Washington Monument, but also about the feel of it generally.

The second drawing showed the walks reduced to 11 feet in width; in this way they were kept under the tree canopy and were less obtrusive. The walks marking the 8th Street axis had also been returned to all gravel, since they did not connect to the museums or the Metro stop.

The third drawing, based on the rendering of the McMillan Commission plan, showed 6-foot-wide strips of paving defining each of the seven grass panels. This had the disadvantage of causing an awkward situation where the gravel and paved paths crossed.

The Chairman asked if anyone outside the Commission would like to comment. Two people asked to speak; the first was Robert Herman, an attorney for the Paralyzed Veterans of America. Mr. Herman related the filing of a complaint in 1993, alleging that the gravel pathways on the Mall were inaccessible to people with disabilities and were in violation of the law. He said the Department of the Interior had looked into the matter and requested the Park Service to come up with a resolution. A scheme was developed for adding paved areas to the walks which won the support of the PVA and the NCPC, and elicited a finding by the Park Service solicitor that "the proposed renovation of the pathways would not constitute impairment of historic features." Mr. Herman said he was very disappointed when the Commission of Fine Arts turned down the proposal, and he felt it was an insult to handicapped people. He commented briefly on the three schemes Mr. Parsons had shown to the members at this meeting. He said his organization still preferred Scheme 1 and found Scheme 2 far less desirable because the 11-foot paved area was not enough for both wheelchair users and the large number of able-bodied people who would prefer it to the gravel surface; Scheme 3 would require wheelchair users to cross gravel areas so often

that it would provide only marginally better access than the current situation.

The second speaker was Sidney Jacobs, who had filed the initial complaint. She said she worked on the Mall and had become increasingly frustrated trying to get around on the gravel surfaces in her wheelchair, even though she was a young, active person. She said she had been very pleased with the Park Service's first proposal and hoped the Commission would approve it.

The members then discussed the three schemes with Mr. Parsons and Arnold Goldstein, Superintendent of National Capital Parks-Central, who pointed out problems of maintenance and expense in each scheme. The Chairman commented that he had been confined to a wheelchair twice in his life and understood the problems, but did not understand why an 11-foot wide paved path was not wide enough; he noted that this was not a commercial area but a park, a historic park, and there had to be some trade-offs. Mrs. Brody said she could accept Scheme 2 but would like to see more study of one element: the "plazas" that were formed by the intersecting walks. She said she did not object to them but thought they needed some refinement; she preferred the way they looked in Scheme 3. The Chairman thought that making those squares slightly different in color would respect the fact that they were bidirectional and reduce the feeling of paths plowing across the Mall; the major east-west axis would then retain its dominance. The Vice-Chairman agreed, saying that in some way a forced perspective had to be created to accomplish this. Ms. Diamonstein agreed with Mrs. Brody's point about the plazas, and suggested approval of Scheme 2 with refinement of the plazas so that they more closely resembled those in Scheme 3. This was agreeable to the other members, and the Chairman thanked Messrs. Parsons and Goldstein, and the disabled persons who had testified; he said a letter would be sent to the Park Service stating the Commission's official action. Exhibit C

(The Chairman turned the gavel over to the Vice-Chairman briefly at this point.)

2. CFA 25/JUL/96-3, East Potomac Park Golf Course, Ohio Drive, S.W. Final site plan, storage pavilion and maintenance facility. Concept for clubhouse renovation. (Previous: CFA 16/APR/92-6). The Assistant Secretary pointed out the location on an aerial photograph and then introduced John Parsons from the Park Service. Mr. Parsons recalled the previous submission for the design of the driving range and upgrading of facilities in 1992; he said the driving range had been built and they were back with some refinements to the

parking lot and preliminary designs for buildings not seen before. He introduced architect Mary Oehrlein to make the presentation.

Ms. Oehrlein said there were four parts to the project: two new buildings, the rehabilitation of an existing building, and site alterations and changes. She showed a site plan, pointing out a District of Columbia pool and pool house (not part of the project), and the existing Park Police Headquarters Building and clubhouse, both considered historic structures, as was the entire golf course. She said these buildings were part of a much larger plan for a pool complex on the site, unfortunately never completed.

The existing clubhouse would be renovated, and two new buildings--a golf cart storage pavilion and a vehicle maintenance facility and yard--would be constructed. The maintenance facility would have a concrete base, stucco system exterior wall, strip windows, and a pitched, shingled roof, all in earth-tone colors. The cart storage pavilion, an open building, would be of similar design and materials, with the addition of open metal grilles. Ms. Oehrlein then showed her plans for the renovation of the old clubhouse, which included restoring original door and window openings and the exterior generally, as well as interior work to provide for current needs, including food service.

The members were pleased with Ms. Oehrlein's designs, and approved the concept for restoration of the clubhouse, and the final designs for the cart storage and maintenance buildings.

(The Chairman returned to the room.)

Mr. Parsons then asked Park Service landscape architect Mark Clapp to discuss revised designs for the parking lot; he recalled that when the Commission had seen the design in 1992 a request was made for additional landscaping and trees.

Mr. Clapp showed drawings, noting the addition of two bays on the south side and the realignment of the entrance drive so that it would focus on the restored colonnade of the clubhouse and alleviate existing traffic problems. He pointed out the heavily-planted islands within the parking lot, noting that over one hundred trees would be added, including hollies and white pines to screen the lot from the golf course.

Mr. Clapp was congratulated on his revisions to the parking lot design, and it was given final approval.
Exhibit D

C. Department of the Treasury

CFA 25/JUL/96-4, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 14th, 15th and C streets, S.W. Visitors center and renovation of west entrance. Final design. (Previous: CFA 15/FEB/96-3.) Staff member Jeffrey Carson recalled the review of this project in February; he said the Commission was pleased with the progress of the design to that point, and had been able to see the work in progress on the realignment of 15th Street during the pre-meeting tour. The realignment would add eight feet to the sidewalk in front of the Holocaust Museum and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the new landscape design for this side of the Bureau building would give the building a new "base", provide for increased security, and add new landscaping, including street trees.

Mr. Carson then introduced Lenore Clarke from the Treasury, who said that since the February meeting the designers had taken the Commission's comments seriously and refined the design; she said they were now seeking final approval. She then asked architect Amy Weinstein to continue the presentation.

Ms. Weinstein reviewed her design, noting that the concept had always been to keep the new pieces looking contemporary, keep the historic building looking historic, and keep a clear distinction between them. She said she was returning at this time with some refinements to the monumental screens in the north and south courtyards and the visitors center in the middle courtyard, overlooking 14th Street. She recalled the Commission's concern that the end towers of the screens were perhaps stronger than they should be relative to the grillage between them, and that the visitors center, although really the centerpiece of the whole project, was visually weak relative to the screens. To address these concerns, Ms. Weinstein said she had been able to take 3 feet off the top of the screens and a foot off the towers on both sides; the towers had also been separated into two overlapping planes, which created a deep shadow and the effect of two vertical elements. On the visitors center, the corner towers had been raised 2 feet and the grillage between them 3 feet; the design of the grillage itself had been changed to reflect the geometry of the existing window divisions. At the same time, Ms. Weinstein said she had followed the recommendation of the Commission and lowered the glass roof of the visitor center atrium, and the whole mast system, about 3 feet, so that it terminated at the top of the masonry of the historic building. She said this had not affected the lofty feeling of the space.

Ms. Diamonstein asked what the color of the mast system would be. Ms. Weinstein said she was thinking of an off-white, and Ms. Diamonstein commented that such a light color might make it too prominent. The Chairman suggested a light

grey might tone it down just enough and yet not seem oppressive. The Vice-Chairman cautioned against too much toning down, saying that the mast system was the major architectural element in the building and needed to be expressed.

Ms. Weinstein then turned to the site plan and a discussion of the low retaining walls along 14th Street. She said that at first they had visualized these as having a contemporary character in front of the new additions, and then becoming more classical as they moved out and were seen in relation to the historic building. Then, after a discussion with the NEA peer review panel, it was decided that they were all really part of the new work and should be in that idiom. She showed drawings of a simple, modern limestone wall with piers to accommodate the change in grade. The security booth had also been redesigned more in the style of the new work.

Ms. Weinstein then showed drawings of the 15th Street front, pointing out the final design of the new retaining walls that would serve as the perimeter security barrier and give the building a firm base, counteracting the significant change of grade in the street. Then she showed the design of the free-standing bollards along the street, which the Commission had not seen before.

Ms. Weinstein turned the discussion over to landscape architect James Urban. Mr. Urban said there had been only minor changes, mostly in response to the tree spacing requirements of the D. C. Government and the Park Service. On 14th Street, trees had been respaced to accommodate a new District rule requiring 20 feet from streetlight to tree, and on 15th Street, trees had been more widely spaced to conform to the Park Service standard; Mr. Urban said he regretted this because he had wanted more shade, particularly near the entrance where there would be a bus-loading area. Some minor changes had been made to the planters on 14th Street, and, at at the request of NCPC, provision had been made to accommodate a possible 14th Street crosswalk by providing a knockout panel in the barrier wall.

There were no further questions for Ms. Weinstein or Mr. Urban. The members were pleased with the refinements that had been made to the design, and particularly with the design of the free-standing bollard. The Chairman told Mr. Urban that if he could work out something with the Park Service to add more trees, that would be fine, but otherwise, the Commission would have to abide by the established tree spacing for the entire street.

Mr. Carson asked to present one more item--banners advertising special exhibits. These would hang parallel to

the street between the columns on the 15th Street portico, or as an alternate, be placed at 90 degrees to the facade. On 14th Street, they would hang on either side of the visitors center entrance. The 15th Street banners were shown in groups of two, three or five, and in equal or different lengths. There was agreement that a group of three banners of equal length, hung parallel to the street, was preferable.

The final designs were then approved, with Ms. Diamonstein abstaining because of the complexity of the project and the fact that she had not seen it before. Exhibit E

D. General Services Administration

CFA 25/JUL/96-5, Federal Triangle: Mellon Auditorium and adjacent office buildings on Constitution Avenue. Systems modernization and handicapped access. Mr. Carson said the part of the systems modernization that would concern the Commission was the placement of mechanical equipment on the roof, and as it would occur in the bay behind the Constitution Avenue facade, would be minimally visible, if at all, from public space, perhaps only from the top of the Washington Monument. He said the other part of the submission concerned a proposed handicapped access program, and in this case, the applicants were not seeking design review but simply guidance as to the proper location for the proposed ramps. He introduced Bernard Wulff from RTKL to discuss the project.

Mr. Wulff began with the ramps at the Mellon Auditorium. He said the current plan was to place them flanking the main stair on the avenue for access through the main entry. There would be a secondary ramp in the passageway to the west, which was intended primarily as loading access to the auditorium. After discussions with the Commission staff, he said they had looked at the possibility of introducing a similar ramp on the east side in an effort to eliminate the need for ramps disrupting the main entrance. For access into the front doors of the Customs and ICC buildings, they were proposing symmetrical ramps reminiscent of those recently approved by the Commission for the Ariel Rios (former Post Office Department) building. Mr. Wulff also pointed out other ramps in the rear of the buildings for handicapped parking areas and access to the new Ronald Reagan Federal Triangle Building.

Mr. Wulff then passed around photographs which showed the mechanical equipment on the roof in the proposed location. He said that in working with the staff of the District's Historic Preservaton Review Board and the CFA staff, they had been able to refine the detail and color of the penthouses so that they would harmonize wth the existing roofscape. He added that in addition to the penthouses, there would be two dish and two

vertical antennae on the roof; he showed the locations and it was agreed that they would be only minimally visible.

Mr. Wulff noted that other aspects of the systems modernization included bird-proofing using the new screening the CFA had approved for the Ariel Rios Building, general cleaning of the exterior of the buildings and the refurbishing of the landscaping in harmony with that existing throughout the Triangle.

The Chairman commented that during the site inspection, the Commission had been taken with the idea of keeping all ramps off the front of the Mellon Auditorium and using the east and west passageways instead; he commented that these passageways would become major pedestrian entrances to the new Federal Triangle complex. Mr. Carson pointed out the proposed location of a ramp at the rear, providing access from the handicapped staff parking lot, which would effectively destroy a beautiful symmetrical space; he suggested that since the nearby loading dock was going to be redesigned anyway, the new ramp could be installed in that area, as it had been at the Building Museum. The Chairman thought that was a reasonable idea, but said the Commission could see the area before giving final approval; he said it was becoming part of a whole new environment being developed with the completion of the Ronald Reagan Building.

The penthouses and antennae were then unanimously approved; the ramp locations were approved as discussed, with the exception of the one Mr. Carson had pointed out.
Exhibit F

E. National Red Cross

CFA 25/JUL/96-6, American Red Cross - D. C. Chapter, 2025 E Street, N.W. Replacement of existing building. Concept. The Assistant Secretary said the Red Cross was proposing a substantial alteration of the local chapter site; it would involve moving a c. 1950 Eggers & Higgins building closer to E Street and constructing a new headquarters/rental office building behind. He noted that the Commission had inspected the site on their pre-meeting tour.

Before the discussion began, Mrs. Brody said that as her husband was on the Board of the American Red Cross, she needed to know to what extent, if any, she should participate in the discussion and voting. It was decided that she should not vote, but there would be no conflict of interest if she gave the Commission the benefit of her comments.

On that basis, the discussion began with the introduction of the architect, Shalom Baranes. Mr. Baranes first clarified

the ownership and use of the building by saying that although currently occupied by the local chapter, the building would be renovated and enlarged by the National Red Cross for use as their headquarters. It would consolidate Red Cross employees now working in several locations, notably in Virginia.

Mr. Baranes said the existing building was a limestone, U-shaped structure with a wing behind that would be demolished. As the Red Cross needed more space, initially for rentable space and eventually for their own expansion, the old building would be moved forward on the site, closer to E Street in line with others in the area, and a new building placed behind it; a substantial amount of office space would also be constructed underground. The old building would be dismantled, and as it was faced with limestone, Mr. Baranes said it would look essentially the same when reassembled, which would not have been true had it been made of brick. Mr. Baranes then described his design for the new building. He said the overall masssing had been developed with two cornices; the lower defined a building mass symmetrical on the site, responding to the symmetry of the existing building and very much like it, with its limestone facing and punched windows. The upper mass was more glass than limestone, and it swept back to the west in a slight bow, recalling the diagonal sweep of Virginia Avenue and the sweep of the river. The limestone of the new building would be of a slightly different color and with a striated surface, to contrast with the old. The main entrance would continue to be in the old building, although a new entrance for the tenants would be added at the east. For balance, there would be a three story glass pavilion at the west, probably used for dining and other special activities.

The Chairman commented that by keeping the essential volume of the existing building, Mr. Baranes' design avoided the pitfalls of facadism, where the old structures become nothing but stage sets. He said he was very taken by the design, and Ms. Diamonstein also reacted favorably. Mr. Baranes then showed siteline studies from the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, and along E Street and the north-south streets. In answer to Ms. Diamonstein's question, he said the height of the new building would be 110 feet. He commented on the apartment building to the north, saying that he had set his building back 18-20 feet from the property line to give it sufficient light and air.

Ms. Diamonstein questioned Mr. Baranes about a strip of poorly-maintained parkland in front of the Red Cross property. The Chairman said it belonged to the District of Columbia, and he thought it would be to the Red Cross's advantage if they could make an arrangement with the District to clean it up and

maintain it. Mr. Baranes said he would be happy to look into the matter.

The Chairman asked if there were any comments from people in the community, and Richard Bush, from the D. C. Preservaton League, asked to speak. He said first that he would like to thank the Red Cross for consolidating its employees in the District instead of sending them out to the suburbs. Then he said the League was pleased with Mr. Baranes' idea of reinforcing the old concept of the Northwest Federal Rectangle by moving the building closer to the street, aligning it with the GSA building down the street, and considering the new construction planned for the space between. He said the League liked the asymmetrical design and the materials for the new building.

Mr. Bush said the League did have several concerns, including the height of the building and its relationship to the surrounding community. He commented that this development was a transition between the monumental core and the part of Washington where people live and work, and he said the League saw the preservation of the community as a legitimate preservation issue. He said he had talked wth the D. C. Historic Preservation Office about the project, and that he had formulated some proposals for the Commission's consideration. These included placing services such as trash collection underground, widening the buffer area between the new building and the apartment to the north and perhaps making it a mini-park, and if possible, stepping the north facade back so that there would be a greater sense of light and space between the new building and the existing neighborhood.

Mr. Baranes said he would be happy to look at the trash collection situation. In regard to the further stepping back, he said he had already moved the building back 20 feet on the north, and on the south, his client had agreed to preserve the old building and move it all the way to the property line; he did not think he could compromise much further and still have a good building. The Chairman suggested there might be some way to effect a trade-off and get the trash collection underground and move some of the offices aboveground so that they would receive some natural light.

Mr. Baranes said he would study all the suggestions made as he developed his design. The Vice-Chairman then made a motion that the conceptual design be approved; it was seconded by Ms. Diamonstein, who added that the approval should be given subject to further study regarding the concerns expressed, and that the Commission should be made aware of any public use of facilities within the building, such as a dining area within the glass pavilion. On this basis the motion was carried, with Mrs. Brody abstaining. Exhibit G

F. National Gallery of Art

CFA 25/JUL/96-7, National Gallery Sculpture Garden, The Mall at Constitution Avenue and 7th Street, N.W. Revised concept design. (Previous: CFA 18/APR/96-2.) The Chairman stated that he would not vote on this project, because of his affiliation with the National Gallery of Art, and in addition would not remain for the discussion, as he had done before, if the Commission so wished. There were no objections to his remaining and taking part in the discussion, and Mr. Carson was asked to introduce the project.

Mr. Carson showed the concept design approved by the Commission in April and said that since then the planning commission had requested certain changes that would place more emphasis on the cross axis of the Mall at 8th Street. The landscape architects had responded with a major entrance on that axis from the Mall side, but had not placed a corresponding entrance on Constitution Avenue, feeling that it was not necessary and would be detrimental to the design. Mr. Carson then introduced architect James Grupe from the National Gallery of Art to continue the discussion.

Mr. Grupe summarized the various reviews that had taken place. He recalled that during the April presentation to the Commission, the members had asked the landscape architects to look at the possibility of a mid-block crossing on 7th Street from the sculpture garden entrance to the National Gallery. In May the staff of the D. C. Historic Preservation Review Board had commented on the design and objected to the perimeter fence as both a visual and physical barrier from the Mall side; they asked that, if it could not be eliminated for security reasons, there at least be a Mall entrance into the garden. In June the staff of the NCPC had addressed the perceived problem of insufficient emphasis on the 8th Street axis, recommending a Mall entrance on that axis, some recognition of it on Constitution Avenue, and the elimination of all tall landscape elements along the axis that might diminish it; NCPC had also asked that the 7th Street entrance be treated as secondary rather than primary. Mr. Grupe noted lastly that the D. C. Government had been asked to react to the possibility of a mid-block crossing light on 7th Street, and the verbal response had been that it could potentially cause a severe traffic problem. Mr. Grupe stressed that the National Gallery had not yet received formal comments from any of these agencies. He said the Olin Partnership had been asked to consider the informal comments, and he introduced Cora Olgyay to discuss their response.

Ms. Olgyay said they had been able to incorporate a Mall entrance in a way that preserved the original circulation on the site, although the character of the pathway near the new

entrance had gone from informal to formal; it was now a great arc, paved in granite like the north and south arcs. She said they had looked into a new entrance along the axis on the north side, but it would have cut into one of the large lawn areas for display of sculpture; fortunately NCPC had agreed that it should not be pursued. She pointed out some changes in the planting scheme that would help emphasize the axis, and also a downplaying of the ceremonial entrance on 7th Street in response to NCPC's request. She added that her firm did not necessarily agree with that change. She asked for comments.

There were no objections to adding a Mall entrance on the the 8th Street cross axis, but both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman said they had liked the undulating character of the original path near the new entrance and did not like its conversion to a formal arc. There was a discussion of how proper circulation in this area might be achieved while still keeping the informal character, and Ms. Olgyay said they were still trying to find a satisfactory solution.

The Chairman brought up the question of the 7th Street entrance and street crossing again. He felt very strongly that the minor north-south axis of the Mall should not be expressed to the detriment of the major east-west axis, particularly at this point because the sculpture garden had just been made part of the National Gallery and should be linked to it. He thought that providing a safe crossing was only a matter of proper timing of existing traffic lights, and he urged further discussion with the District government.

The Chairman then asked the Vice-Chairman to take over the meeting for the vote, noting that he would abstain. He explained that as Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, he had to attend a GSA meeting regarding the sculpture for the Federal Triangle development. The revised design was then approved, subject to the reservations expressed above, with the Chairman abstaining. Exhibit H

(Mrs. Brody also left the meeting at this point.)

G. Department of Defense, Pentagon Reservation

CFA 25/JUL/96-8, new condenser water intake structure on Pentagon Lagoon. Mr. Carson explained that this project was part of the ongoing improvement program at the Pentagon. An existing structure would be replaced with a new one that, visually, would resemble other structures previously approved for the heating plant. There were no objections and the new structure was unanimously approved. Exhibit I

H. Department of the Army, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

CFA 25/JUL/96-9, Fort McNair, 4th & M streets, S.W. Renovation of Barracks Building No. 47. Mr. Martínez said the renovation of this historic building would affect primarily the interior, and the exterior work would be, to a great extent, a straightforward restoration. The changes would occur mostly on the back and would include access to the basement and a screen wall for mechanical equipment. He introduced architect Andrew Guljas, from Cochran, Stephenson & Donkervoet, to describe them in more detail.

Mr. Guljas said the building appeared on McKim, Mead & White's master plan of 1906, and had very likely been designed by them. He said his firm had been able to determine what the building looked like in its early years from research done in the Fort McNair archives. Mr. Guljas showed photographs of the conditions at the rear and drawings showing the proposed cleaning up of the service area and the grouping of mechanical equipment behind screen walls. Windows would be removed and replaced with the same type, primarily casement, that existed originally. Doors would also be replaced and the front stair reconfigured.

Ms. Diamonstein asked about the large amount of water under the stairs in one of the photographs; Mr. Guljas said that would be eliminated through the use of trench drains that would not be conspicious. The Vice-Chairman commented on the high quality of Fort McNair and its open space, and said he was pleased with the way the restoration of the barracks building was being carried out. The other members agreed, and Ms. Diamonstein thought the Army should be congratulated on the pride they were taking in their buildings. The restoration project was then unanimously approved. Exhibit J

I. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

1. CFA 25/JUL/96-10, U. S. Naval Observatory, Massachusetts Avenue at 34th Street, N.W. Design for new sign at entrance. Mr. Martínez recalled the Commission's request that the Navy keep the anchors at the entrance to the observatory when the reconfiguration plans were first reviewed in 1990. Now, he said, there was a proposal to place a cast aluminum sign with the name, "Naval Observatory", on a section of brick wall placed near the left-hand anchor, between the sidewalk and the perimeter fence. He showed a photograph and asked Larry Earle, from the Navy's Chesapeake Division, to answer the members' questions.

In answer to Ms. Diamonstein, Mr. Earle said the sign would be about 4 feet high to the top of the arched wall, 10 feet long and slightly over a foot deep. In addition to the name, there would be a cast aluminum plaque with the Naval

Observatory's seal. Letters and plaque would be grey in color; the wall would be red brick.

There was general disatisfaction with the grey letters and plaque, because of a perceived illegibility; with the red brick wall, since it would be the only red brick at the entrance; and with the location. The Secretary suggested that since the guard house was so vulnerable to attack, situated right at the end of 34th Street, it might make sense to place the sign in the middle of an island at the entrance so that it would form a barrier to a high speed approach to the guard house.

In view of all these uncertainties, Mr. Earle was asked to come back with alternative studies, and the project, as presented, was not approved. Exhibit K

2. CFA 25/JUL/96-11, Washington Navy Yard, M Street, S.E. Repair and partial replacement of portions of perimeter walls. Mr. Martínez said this project involved the continuation of an existing brick wall along 11th Street, and a new iron fence along Isaac Hull Avenue. He asked Mr. Earle to make the presentation.

Mr. Earle showed photographs of the 11th Street wall, pointing out sections of chain link fencing that would be replaced with a brick wall, replicating the existing. He said that at the request of NCPC it would stop short of the waterfront to allow continuous pedestrian and bicycle access along the Anacostia River. He then showed the location of the second wall section, actually a fence, in the area soon to be occupied by the new Naval Sea Systems Command complex. Drawings showed an ornamental iron fence with brick piers.

There were no objections to the wall repair, but the Vice-Chairman was concerned that the piers of the fence were a little too fragile-looking, especially in light of the large buildings in the area. It was suggested by the Vice-Chairman, and the other members agreed, that Mr. Earle work with the staff in developing a more substantial-looking design. With that understanding, the project was unanimously approved. Exhibit K

J. Smithsonian Institution

CFA 25/JUL/96-12, Arts and Industries Building, Independence Avenue and Jefferson Drive, S.W. Signs. Mr. Carson said this proposal was for a canvas banner over the entrance, and four free-standing aluminum panel signs at the edge of the sidewalk that would announce changing exhibits. He showed drawings and said the purpose of the signs was to improve accessibility for the visually handicapped. He then

introduced Harry Rombach from the Smithsonian to answer questions.

Mr. Rombach said the signs were needed because the building lacked identification--the name "Arts and Industries" did not tell people what they would find inside. Also, a reorganization had brought four different entities into the building, and each now needed a sign. Ms. Diamonstein asked what there was about the lettering that made it more readable for the visually handicapped. Mr. Rombach said it was the color and the contrast between letters and background; he added that the examples shown were not final, that the signs were still in the experimental stage. He said at this point they needed something to put up for the Smithsonian's 150th birthday celebration, and in the ensuing months they would decide whether the signs were working or whether a different approach was needed.

Ms. Diamonstein suggested that these signs be considered temporary--maquettes for a permanent installation--and that Mr. Rombach come back in a few months when more thought had been given to them. The Vice-Chairman suggested that he return in October; that was agreeable to Mr. Rombach and to the members of the Commission. Exhibit L

K. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 96-59, 445 12th Street, S.W. The Portals, Phase II. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 92-8.) Mr. Martínez recalled that the Commission approved the concept design for this building in 1989, and with revisions, again in 1991. He said the developer was now ready to begin construction, and the Commission needed to approve the final drawings for permit application. He introduced architect Arthur Cotton Moore to make the presentation.

Mr. Moore showed slides of the area before construction, as well as aerial views, talking about the geometry of the site and its relation to the plan of Washington, and pointing out the Jefferson Memorial, the Capitol, and the railroad running along the line of Maryland Avenue. Then he showed his concept for the development of the site, with a plaza built over the tracks and a grouping of buildings, only one of which had been built. The one for which he was seeking approval would be the second. He showed details from the first building, saying that the second would be similar. He said some redesign had been necessary because the client, GSA, needed a 30 rather than a 20-foot bay. Mr. Moore then showed samples of the light-colored brick that he would be using.

The Vice-Chairman thought the Commission could sustain the previous approval and Mrs. Rafshoon agreed. The project was thus approved with Ms. Diamonstein abstaining because of the complexity of the project and the fact that she had not participated in the earlier discussions. Exhibit M

b. S.L. 96-48, 7770 17th Street, N.W. New single family residence. Concept. Mr. Martínez located the site on an aerial photograph and showed pictures of the houses in the surrounding neighborhood. He said the design was still in the concept stage and needed to go through zoning review, but the staff had been working with the applicant and the architect closely and were very pleased with the direction it was taking. He said some minor details remained to be worked out.

The members were also pleased with the drawings Mr. Martínez showed them, and the Vice-Chairman suggested that the staff continue working with the remaining details. The project was then unanimously approved, subject to final review by the staff. Exhibit M

c. S.L. 96-58, Hillwood Museum, 4155 Linnean Drive, N.W. New visitors center, parking deck and greenhouse facility. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 96-03) Mr. Carson said this project was reviewed as a master plan in October 1995 and approved with respect to the various new elements to be added to the Hillwood site. He said the changes to the site included rebuilding and enlarging the visitors center, providing a double parking deck, alterations to the greenhouses, and various other smaller additions and revisions to support facilities. Mr. Carson said that since the Commission had last reviewed the project, there had been a change in architects and revisions to the greenhouse design, resulting in a smaller footprint. He recalled that the Commission's biggest concern during the previous review had been how to screen the parking deck from Rock Creek Park. Mr. Carson then introduced Bill Gridley from Bowie-Gridley, architects, to discuss the project.

Mr. Gridley discussed the greenhouse first, saying that they had decided to demolish the existing greenhouse and build another, replicating the design. He said they had even found the successor company to the original builder, and so the new structure would be essentially the same as the old; no increase in space was planned at this time.

Turning to the parking deck, he showed drawings of the design, and noted that some trees would have to come down; after construction, however, others would be added to form a canopy that would screen the masonry wall of the structure. Beneath the trees would be lower plantings of native shrubs

and small trees. The wall itself would be built of split-face concrete blocks and would have a stone-like quality, blending in with the ground. At the request of the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Gridley showed sections of the parking structure and also drawings of the visitors center and greenhouse, so that the members could get a better idea of the effect they would have on Rock Creek Park.

There were no objections to the revisions that had been made, and the final drawings were unanimously approved. Exhibit M

d. Appendix I. The Appendix was approved without objection.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 95-152, 3513 N Street, N.W. Holy Trinity Church. Additions, new construction and razing. Concept. The Assistant Secretary introduced this project, saying that it involved a historic church, dating from the late 18th century, and additions on the site. He said it had been reviewed by the Old Georgetown Board five times, and after 72 percent of the original proposal for additions had been removed, was being recommended for approval. He introduced Anne Murphy from Holy Trinity Church to begin the presentation.

Ms. Murphy talked about the needs of the church for adequate office space and a handicapped-accessible meeting space for parishioners, and the decision, in light of objections to the early plans by the Georgetown Board and the community, to go underground for much of this space. She asked architect Jim Moore from the Kerns Group to discuss his plans.

Mr. Moore described the current plan to retain the open space to the east of the original structure, restore the facade and interior, add a one-story structure above ground with one story below, and an elevator stair tower. A small 20th-century structure to the northeast of the church would be demolished and replaced with a new two-story building connected to the rear of the old church.

There had been objections to the construction by neighbors who would be affected by it. Even with the new plans, two occupants of an apartment house on 35th Street would lose a significant amount of light and air because an existing wall would be raised by 7 feet, making it 32-feet high. One of the residents, Ruth France, asked to testify. Ms. France, chairman of the Citizens Association's historic preservation committee, said she and the association were very

pleased with the new scheme in general and with the plan to restore the church, but as she lived in the basement apartment, the wall would severely impact her light and air and the quality of her garden. She noted that another tenant, who was not present, would be even more severely affected.

Ms. Diamonstein asked if the proposed development was within the church's matter-of-right zoning, and if there was anything they could do to alleviate the tenants' situation. Ms. Murphy said they were within their matter-of-right zoning, and actually, the view would be improved because an existing smokestack, shed, and old air-conditioning equipment would be removed. Ms. Diamonstein suggested that the church might help Ms. France enhance her wall with some planting, and Ms. Murphy said she had already talked to Mr. Moore about that possibility, and they were intending to do something about it.

There was no further discussion, and the project was unanimously approved with the suggestion made regarding the improvement of the wall. Exhibit M

b. Appendix II. The Appendix was approved without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
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EXHIBIT A

September 6, 1996

Dear Secretary Rubin:

The Commission of Fine Arts is an enthusiastic supporter of the Congressional proposal to issue circulating commemorative coins honoring the admission of each of our fifty states to the Union.

One of the most appealing aspects of this program is the inclusivity of a nationwide program and the fact it will offer an opportunity for developing an interest in collecting coins among a much wider group of people. It also will offer a great incentive to American artists to participate in the design of the coins. It is this latter aspect that was emphasized in our report to Chairman Castle during the legislative hearings before the House (copy enclosed).

I hope you agree with in urging the Mint's vigorous pursuit of utilizing the talents of our national design community. It is a rare opportunity to be able to take part in such a broad design program, and we are confident there will be wide-spread interest from the public in an approach that stresses the regional and cultural uniqueness of each state.

We will be happy to work with the Mint in exploring various means of achieving this end.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown

The Hon. Robert E. Rubin
Secretary of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 3330
Washington, D.C. 20220

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

25 July 1996

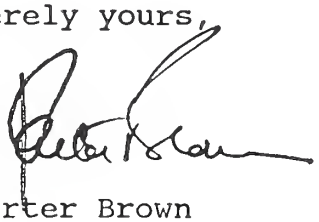
Dear Mr. Castle:

The Commission of Fine Arts is delighted to hear about your recently introduced legislation authorizing a circulating commemorative coin program marking the entrance of each of the fifty States into the Union. As you know, we have long been advocating a change in design for circulating coinage, and this program seems like a very acceptable way of doing it. It does not commit us irrevocably to any of the new designs since each will only be minted for one year, and there always will be the opportunity to return to the old design once the ten-year program has been concluded should that prove to be desirable.

What interests us in particular is the opportunity to engage a larger community of artists in the design selection process than is normal for individual commemorative issues. We are confident that there are many talented individuals who would like to be involved in such a program, whether it be by competitive selection or a direct commission. Such an extensive program involving fifty new designs over a ten year period should allow for employing a range of selection methods. In cases involving the competitive process, the engravers on the Mint staff should by all means be urged to participate. What we hope to see is a broad participation of artists, and the program should be as inclusive as possible.

It is our understanding that the Administration has not yet taken a formal position on this legislation although we are urging their enthusiastic backing. In the event the legislation is adopted, however, we felt that making our position known at an early time would be helpful, especially in regard to the design selection process.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown

Rep. Michael N. Castle
1207 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0801

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

EXHIBIT A-1

October 9, 1996

RECEIVED
OCT 11 1996
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Honorable J. Carter Brown
Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
441 F Street, N.W. Suite 312
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Carter

Thank you for your letter supporting H.R. 3792, which would create a circulating commemorative quarter honoring the 50 states. I appreciate your views and look forward to your input on the selection of designs for this program should such legislation be enacted.

As you know, the form and design of the nation's currency and coinage are of great significance to all Americans. As such, our primary concern regarding H.R. 3793 relates to the lack of information about how the American people will respond to a series of 50 new designs over ten years on the most important denomination of U.S. coinage. In order to ensure that public support is sufficient to sustain a ten-year program, we believe that it is essential that market-based research be conducted to determine the extent of public support for a series of commemorative coins honoring the 50 states.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Rubin

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5 August 1996

EXHIBIT B

Dear General Herrling:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Ambassador Williams at our 25 July meeting and get a briefing on the status of the World War II Memorial competition. Your decision and that of your professional advisor Bill Lacy to avoid iron-clad restrictions on some of the quantifiable design elements is a good one.

An outstanding design that meets all other program requirements but exceeds a precise height limit by a few feet should not be rejected. The program would be self-defeating were it to eliminate entries on the basis of a technicality.

We also are glad to see the use of the word "detract" instead of "interfere" or "obstruct" in reference to the east-west vista on the Mall. Often a vista can be enhanced by the introduction of properly-scaled elements along the line of sight. They need not detract from the view despite the fact that they could be construed by some as a possible intrusion into the vista.

We wish you well on your venture. It is good to see everyone associated with your undertaking committed to achieving an outstanding design. The importance of the Rainbow Pool challenges all of us to produce a major memorial that will add both to the beauty as well as symbolic significance of the heart of the Capital.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

General John P. Herrling
20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Suite 5127
Washington, DC 20314

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5 August 1996

EXHIBIT C

Dear Mr. Stanton:

At the request of Superintendent Arnold Goldstein, during the meeting of 25 July 1996, the Commission revisited the subject of handicapped accessibility as it pertains to the Mall. While the members recognize the delicacy of the matter, the Commission regrets any change to the walks that might compromise the dignified simplicity of this park setting. We are faced with a difficult choice; in order to make a national landmark fully accessible, it must be changed in ways that could alter the significance of the landmark. We are told that paving over a portion of the Mall will inflict the least amount of damage, while recognizing the fact that "damage" will have been done. Nevertheless, the Commission as a whole is resigned to some degree of paving.

As a result, the Commission considered three options. The first option (A) paved over all north-south walks as well as a wide swath beneath the park benches, the second (B) paved over only selected north-south walks and a more narrow band under the park benches, and the third (C) paved around the grass panels as well as under the park benches which further broke down the east-west linearity of the principal walks and apparently increased the maintenance program. While none of the examples shown was ideal, Option B seemed the least destructive.

In choosing Option B for further study, the Commission noted that the resulting breaks in the east-west gravel walks might be less disturbing if the intersections of the converging walkways were paved in a different material or color aggregate.

We look forward to working with your designers in developing the details of this plan.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert Stanton
Regional Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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5 August 1996

EXHIBIT D

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission continued its review of proposed developments at the East Potomac Golf Course on 25 July 1996. We are delighted with both the response to previous suggestions about breaking-up and landscaping the parking lot, restoration of the "clubhouse," and the concept designs for new maintenance and cart storage buildings.

Restoring the colonnaded 1920's clubhouse, omitting the front porch row of vending machines, and upgrading the interior will help preserve the special character of this venerable building. Entrance to the area will be greatly enhanced by the new drive configuration which will focus on the restored colonnade (vs. the service side of the clubhouse and police buildings). Likewise the new buildings should harmonize as appropriate park structures, quietly consolidating and hiding the clutter of carts and maintenance equipment. The palette of materials proposed seems appropriate and will fit in nicely with the natural setting.

Though the District of Columbia bath house in the center of the complex is technically outside your domain, and beyond the scope of this work, it continues to trouble us. Perhaps a way can be found to clean up the chain link fence and utility elements around its entrance and to replace the red paint on its rather large rooftop clearstory/vents with a more subtle earth-tone to blend with the surroundings.

At this point approvals include the clubhouse restoration, the parking lot reconfiguration, and concept designs for the new maintenance and cart storage buildings.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Robert Stanton
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

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5 August 1996

EXHIBIT E

Dear Mr. Rolufs:

During its meeting of 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed a final design presentation of the proposed new visitors' center, systems renovation, and landscape and security enhancements for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. In its approval, the members have commended your project director, Lenore Clarke, and the work of her consultants, including architect Amy Weinstein Associates, landscape architect James Urban, and engineer Parsons Infrastructure.

As so aptly described, the Bureau is a "gateway" to the city; it is a significant element in one of the most important approaches to the Capital. More than that, the facility is one of the most visited destinations for tourists that the federal government has to offer. Nevertheless, the current physical state of the Bureau is an embarrassment. Its exterior, especially as seen from 14th Street, is a hodge-podge of industrial afterthoughts, having been built or installed without thought to landscaping or security improvements. More often than not, this is the public entrance. Visitor waiting areas and tour routes have even less to commend: makeshift surroundings and a labyrinth of narrow and confusing passages that no other museum or public facility would ever tolerate.

As a result, the Commission has approved the "Southwest Gateway Project" and urges a timely implementation of the entire package. Should any questions arise, the staff is available to discuss this matter at your convenience.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Larry E. Rolufs, Director
Bureau of Engraving and Printing
14th & C Streets, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20228

cc. The Hon. Robert E. Rubin
Secretary of the Treasury

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EXHIBIT F

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Weiser:

As you know, during its meeting of 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed and approved a proposal for the addition of a mechanical penthouse to the inner core roof of the old Interstate Commerce Commission office building in the Federal Triangle. The project included the addition of satellite dishes and antenna, which as placed would be virtually invisible from public space. Clearly, these projects are necessary for the implementation of mechanical and communication systems improvements to the building and, as designed, appear to be as discreet as possible.

The Commission also considered the possibility of adding handicapped access ramps to a number of principal and secondary entrances affecting the ICC as well as the adjacent Mellon Auditorium and the US Customs Service offices to the west. This is a worthy endeavor that deserves the careful consideration of all concerned.

The Mellon Auditorium is the centerpiece of one of the Capital's great civic settings. It is a significant architectural statement that would be diminished by any encumbrance along its avenue elevation. Therefore, the Commission was heartened to learn that alternatives exist. Constructing ramps over the areaways within the flanking porte- cocheres to existing entrances accessing the auditorium seems ideal, especially with respect to the 13th Street approach from Pennsylvania Avenue which would also provide access from the parking garage at the Ronald Reagan Building. For similar reasons, the Commission would also recommend further study of the proposed ramp location providing access from the handicapped staff parking lot in the courtyard shared by the Ariel Rios Building. Since the nearby loading dock is to be redesigned, it also may prove suitable for staff access.

Obviously, the exact nature of the ramps generally, their precise configuration, materials and detailing, have not been fully examined. As you and your consultants develop the

designs, the Commission will be happy to schedule a concept review at your earliest convenience. Our next meeting date is the 19th of September. The staff is available should questions arise in the interim.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Leonard Weiser, Project Executive
Property Development Division
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

CC. Bernard Wulff, RTKL
Nancy Witherell, NCPC
David Maloney, HPRB

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EXHIBIT G

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Dashefsky:

During its meeting of 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed and approved your proposed concept for a new office building at 2025 E Street, N.W., the current site of the D.C. Chapter of the American Red Cross. Architect Shalom Baranes has provided a novel approach to adaptive re-use by including the central portion of the original Red Cross building in the design. More than an exercise in "facadism" which, over the past twenty years, has played its course, the architect has celebrated the old building and made it his focal point.

As the focus of the new complex, the original building would be moved forward to align with the established facade line along E Street. The much larger volume of the new structure would then frame this central feature using similar materials and details in a sophisticated geometry clearly acknowledging the dynamics of its surroundings. Preserving the two street corners as generous landscape elements would effectively emphasize the original building, transforming it into a pleasing entrance pavilion.

The Commission is aware of the effort of you and your design team to create a reasonable buffer between the north wall of the new building and the adjacent neighbors. Further study of such mundane elements as loading docks and trash removal may provide additional softening effects. In a similar vein, programming the glassy structure projecting into the west "garden" for a function such as dining would be a nice public gesture.

As an aside, during their visit to the site, the members were shocked by the conditions of the city-owned park directly across E Street from the site. Although relatively small, it certainly has an impact. No doubt the city would be delighted to have the Red Cross "adopt" this park.

The Commission looks forward to the review of the design as it develops. The staff is available should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Richard L. Dashefsky
General Counsel
American Red Cross
430 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

cc. Shalom Baranes

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EXHIBIT H

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Powell:

During its meeting 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed and approved alterations to the concept design for the National Gallery Sculpture Garden. As you may recall, the Commission received the original design shown to us in April with great enthusiasm. The members understand the logic for the changes, notably the addition of a major mid-block entrance from Madison Drive. However, emphasizing the north-south 8th Street axis at the expense of the east-west "campus" axis should be avoided. One of the great delights of Beaux-Arts design is the logical overlay of primary and secondary, even tertiary, axes. In this light, the mid-block entrance on 7th Street should be retained as a primary visual and (if possible) physical connection to its parent gallery to the east. Every effort should be made to obtain permission for a pedestrian crosswalk at mid-block.

On a secondary note, the new south entrance has interrupted the elegant solution of paved primary walks and gravel secondary paths so notable in the April presentation. This has left a paved, hard geometry on the south side of the garden that may diminish its general effect. It is hoped that a resolution of this problem will be forthcoming.

As always, the staff is available should questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Earl A. Powell, III
Director
National Gallery of Art
Washington, D.C. 20565

cc. Carl M. Campioli,
Ass't. Senior Architect, Natl. Gallery
Laurie Olin Associates

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EXHIBIT I

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Humphrey:

During its meeting 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed and approved designs for the new water intake and filtration structures at the Pentagon. The members noted that the intake facility on the Pentagon Lagoon will replace an existing structure and that the new materials will reflect the color and composition of the more recently approved buildings for the heating plant. As always, the Commission commends your office for its on-going committment to design quality.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Elbert R. Humphrey
Director, Management Division
Pentagon Renovation & Planning Office
Department of Defense
Washington Headquarters Services
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1155

cc. Alexander Catravas
Pentagon Renovation & Planning Office

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EXHIBIT J

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Cheung:

During its meeting 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed and approved the restoration of and modifications to Barracks Building No. 47 at Fort McNair. The members commend the consulting architects, Cochran Stephenson & Donkervoet, for their sympathetic approach to this important historic structure. The alterations to the north entrance steps and the placement of mechanical equipment behind a screen wall are an improvement over the existing conditions.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Kisuk Cheung, P.E.
Chief, Engineering Division
Directorate of Military Programs
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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EXHIBIT K

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Earle:

During its meeting of 25 July 1996, the Commission reviewed two projects for the Department of the Navy: a masonry wall with applied lettering for a sign at the 34th Street entrance to the Naval Observatory, and two perimeter security walls at the Washington Navy Yard.

For the most part, the Navy Yard project was received favorably; there was no objection to the masonry wall on 11th Street. However, given the context, further study might be given to the scale of the brick piers punctuating the cast iron fence west of Isaac Hull Avenue.

The Observatory sign/wall was received less favorably. The members recommend reconsideration of the design in its entirety. It was suggested that a masonry wall and sign might be placed at the edge of the existing circular planter, curved to replace a portion of the coping. Not only would the location seem more logical, the configuration would also provide an additional security barrier protecting the guardhouse.

We look forward to the review of the revised designs. As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lawrence P. Earle
Department of the Navy
Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake
Washington Navy Yard Building 212
901 M Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20374-5018

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EXHIBIT L

5 August 1996

Dear Mr. Rombach:

The Commission was pleased to see you during its meeting of 25 July 1996 for the review of a canvas banner and four "experimental" sign panels for the Arts and Industries Building entrance on Jefferson Drive. Noting the long-term "temporary" nature of the panels and the fact that the Smithsonian is faced with a strict deadline, the Commission has given its tentative approval to your request, reserving final approval pending the outcome of a site inspection in September. Its decision will be made public at the 17 October meeting.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Harry Rombach
Planning and Programming
Smithsonian Institution
955 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Suite 3230
Washington, D.C. 20024-2119

EXHIBIT M

25 July 1996

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 96-48	7770 17th Street, N.W. Zuckerman Bros. Inc. Residence	New building - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of new single family dwelling as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 2 August 1996. Recommend asphalt or tinted concrete for driveway. Erect on-site material sample panel for Commission's approval.

S.L. 96-58	4155 Linnean Avenue, N.W. Marjorie Merriweather Post Foundation of D.C. Hillwood Museum	Visitor's center, parking deck and greenhouse - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, additions and new construction, including a new visitor center, parking deck and greenhouse facility. Note is made of supplemental drawings for the visitor center received, dated and approved 25 July 1996.

S.L. 96-59	445 12th Street, S.W. Parcel 49C Ltd. Part. Portals Phase II	New building - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new building, Phase II of the Portals. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (S.L. 92-8). Erect a material sample panel on site for CFA review and approval before construction of walls.

---

25 July 1996

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 96-48	7770 17th Street, N.W. Zuckerman Bros. Inc. Residence	New building - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of new single family dwelling as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 18 October 1996. Recommend asphalt or tinted concrete for driveway. Erect on-site material sample panel for Commission's approval.

25 July 1996 AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-152 HPA. 95-431	3513 N Street, N.W. Holy Trinity Church	Additions, new construction and razing - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed razing and new construction provided working drawings, material samples, and landscape plans are submitted for Commission of Fine Arts review.

In its public review on 25 July 1996, the Commission had a representation by the owners and architects plus a public testimony prior to approving the attached report of the Old Georgetown Board. The Commission noted that the integrity of the historic church building and its side yard would be preserved, protected, and restored. The original design had filled the entire permissible zoning envelope - much more mass than the Board felt could be accommodated on a site with historic structures and adjacent residences. The revised design has reduced the proposed mass by over seventy percent, and is far more acceptable. It was further noted that the Advisory Neighborhood Commission had approved the project.

REPORT OF THE OLD GEORGETOWN BOARD

TO

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

25 July 1996

O.G. 95-152	3513 N Street, N.W. Holy Trinity Church	Razing and new construction - conceptual

REPORT: The Board reviewed this project at five public meetings (5 October 95, 2 November 95, 30 November 95, 9 April 96, and 11 June 96) and inspected the site and its environs on 1 November 1995. Holy Trinity is an uniquely valuable complex of historic buildings, with its oldest structure (the original sanctuary) dating to the late 18th century. The original proposal presented last October called for a program of new construction which would have greatly diminished the current open space. The Board determined that the construction program would have been excessive both from the standpoint of the church complex as well as its adjacent neighbors. In subsequent meetings, the architects and the church reduced the scale of the project, achieving a more reasonable balance in the current form which the Board recommends for concept approval. It should be noted that the local Advisory Neighborhood Commission has also approved this scheme.